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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,112	06/27/2001	Philip M. Walker	10005039-1	4872

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EXAMINER

JAROENCHONWANIT, BUNJOB

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2143

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/893,112	WALKER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit	2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

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1. In response to the amendment and argument filed 12/13/04; the rejection cited are as stated below.

- I. Claims 1-16, drawn to a method system for configuring client network resource, classified in class 709, subclass 220.
- II. Claims 17-18, drawn to a specific application of GUI, classified in class 715, subclass 764.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions II and I are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the invention I is directed to using GUI for configuring client resources, which includes specific requirement, such as automatically determining configuration and establishing connection to the resources, whereas the invention II is directed to a specific GUI or windows structure requirement, e.g., require first, second and sub-windows. The subcombination has separate utility such as automatic configuration and automatic establishing connection is not required in invention II, while the structure separated of separate windows is not require in the invention group I.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

3. Since claim 17-18 are newly submitted and directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the aforementioned reasons, above. Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively rejected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 17-18 are, therefore, withdrawn from consideration, based on original presentation (See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03).

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

5. Claims 1-3, 6-9, 11-14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hansen (US 5,819,042).

6. Regarding claims 1-3, 6-9, 11-14 and 16, Hansen discloses a method apparatus and computer program (hereinafter collectively referred to as a system) for setup, configuring and managing network resources. The system comprises a configuration manager graphic user interface (GUI) (Fig. 4-7), which includes databases of network resources, topologies and protocols, i.e., accessing database of network connectivity, enabling network operators, managers or users to choose and configure and utilization the resources by conventional drag and drop feature (Fig. 8, 270-272; Col. 5, lines 9-26). Hansen further discloses automatically configuration and automatic establishing connection, which are applicable for configuring and connecting network resources (fig 8. illustrated a process of automatically detect configuration; step 154 fig 3D, indicated that the map capable automatically establishing connection between to interface of network resources, Col. 13, lines 13-44, specially lines 35-38).

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7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 4-5, 10 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hansen (US 5,819,042).

9. Regarding claims 4-5, 10 and 15, Hansen discloses the invention substantially, as claimed, as described in their base claims, including utilizing the configuration GUI for configuring LAN WAN connectivity, but it is silent to applying the GUI for VLAN configuration. However, utilizing a system that is capable of configuring LAN, WAN to configure other type of network topology such as VLAN, would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made that was a matter of utility choice, in which does not require any distinct limitations or producing any unexpected result.

10. Applicant's arguments filed 12/13/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In the remark applicant argued in substance that Hansen does not teach providing access for client resources on a different network.

In response to applicant's arguments, the recitation access for client resources on a different network has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural

limitations are able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951).

In response to applicant's argument that Hansen does not provide automatic establishing client connectivity to the resource. This issue has readily been addressed in the claims' rejection above.

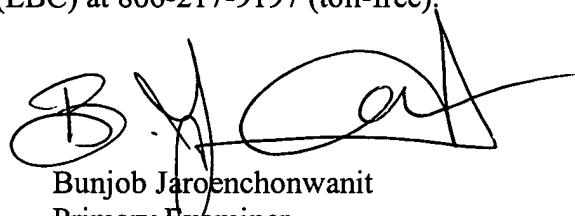
11. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit whose telephone number is (571) 272-3913. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-17:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2143

/bj
2/22/05